United Nations S/2005/476

Security Council

Distr.: General
22 July 2005

Original: English

Letter dated 14 July 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the joint statement on Ethiopia issued on 13 July 2005 by the European Union and the United States of America (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of this letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Emyr **Jones Parry**
Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom
to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 14 July 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English, French and Spanish]

Joint statement on Ethiopia issued on 13 July 2005 by the European Union and the United States of America

The European Union and the United States commend the Ethiopian people for their peaceful and democratic expression of political will on 15 May. The international community urges in the strongest terms that all parties to the elections and the Government abide by their commitment to the 10 June and 13 June 2005 declarations. All parties should renounce all use of violence, inflammatory, defamatory or ethnic hate messages via the media or Internet, and any other action that is likely to further increase tension in Ethiopia.

The European Union and the United States expect all political parties and the Government to abide by the political process through parliamentary and constitutional means to resolve this election crisis. We urge all parties to participate fully in the Complaints Investigation Panel process. All dissenting views need to be registered and the personal safety of witnesses ensured. Where there are procedural or other problems these need to be addressed swiftly and constructively.

We urge the nation's political leaders as well as those in the diaspora to work together for political dialogue and support open communication towards reconciliation and a commitment to peace and non-violence. We note the announcement by the National Electoral Board on 8 July of the first set of final election results, and call on all sides to dedicate their efforts to ensure that the electoral process continues to be carried out in a transparent and fully open manner.

We expect all political parties including the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF), the Coalition for Unity and Democracy (CUD) and the United Ethiopian Democratic Forces (UEDF) to respect the political process with the National Electoral Board and continue working for the promotion of democracy and a vibrant society. We urge the Government of Ethiopia to respect international principles of human rights by exercising due process and releasing detained party members and party supporters who are not going to be charged.

The European Union and the United States will assist Ethiopia as it meets these new democratic challenges.

The acceding countries Bulgaria and Romania, the candidate countries Croatia* and Turkey, the countries of the stabilization and association process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, EFTA countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway and members of the European Economic Area, as well as the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, align themselves with this statement.

* Croatia continues to be part of the stabilization and association process.